To What Extent is the Tsar responsible for the collapse of Romanov Rule

IB History

**Instructions:**

One filter that we can use to evaluate the past is considering the agency of individuals versus the influence of the context that the individuals are operating. These two perspectives are known at the intentionalist perspective (the actions of individuals have a direct causal impact on historical events) and the structuralist perspective (individuals have little power to influence events and the true force of change are larger macro social, economic and political forces). We are going to use these two perspectives to evaluate the responsibility of the Tsar for the collapse of his government.

***To what extent is Nicholas II responsible for the February Revolution?***

The main resource for this activity will be pages 16-23 in Marples Lenin’s Revolution and the historiography provided.

*Intentionalist Perspective*

The Tsar was to blame for his downfall because:

1. His personality and Leadership
2. Resistance and Subversion of Political Reform
3. His misjudgments and mistakes

*Structuralist Perspective*

The Tsar is not to blame for his downfall because:

1. Problems created by industrialization and modernization
2. Political Change
3. Social and Economic Divisions
4. Opposition groups
5. Degree of support and the impact of World War I

You will be split into pairs to develop your arguments than will have a small group discussion where you consider both perspectives. While you are listening to the other group, make sure you take note of the most effective arguments.

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| Tsar is to blame | Tsar is not to blame |
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